Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-13 /065 W

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R 271730Z DEC 76 FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000 INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 8326

DEPT FOR ARA LABOR ADVISOR O'GRADY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU, AR

SUBJECT: SPECIAL ICFTU MISSION TO ARGENTINA

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 8060, (B) BUENOS AIRES 8237, (C) EC BRUSSELS 12607

1. EMBASSY ASSUMES AFL-CIO AWARE THAT EXPECTATIONS AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY WILL BE MEMBER OF ICFTU FACT-FINDING MISSION IN ARGENTINE CONTINUE TO BE WHIPPED UP IN ARGENTINE LABOR CIRCLES. SEVERAL ARTICLES HAVE APPEARED IN LOCAL PRESS REPEATING ORIGINAL ASSERTION CONCERNING MEANY VISIT WITHOUT CHECKING INTO ITS VERACITY, THE LATEST BEING IN "LA NACION'S" WEEKLY LABOR COLUMN OF TODAY. SOME OF THIS REPORTING MAY BE IN GOOD FAITH, BUT MOTIVE ON THE PART OF OTHERS, WE BELIEVE, IS TO KEEP GOA APPREHENSIVE AND MORE DISPOSED TO DIALOGUE WITH LOCAL LABOR LEADERS (SEE PARA6). SHOULD DEPT OR AFL-CIO HAVE ANY PREFERENCES AS TO HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND TO INQUIRIES, EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE SUCH GUIDANCE.

2. REQUEST UPDATED INFORMATION ON POSSIBILITY OF AFL-CIO OR OTHER US UNION PARTICIPATION IN ICFTU MISSION. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. FYI. EX-METALWORKER (UOM) ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUIS GUERRERO TOLD LABATT HE HAD INFORMATION THAT UAW INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR ESTEBAN TORRES WOULD ACCOMPANY MISSION, ALONG WITH IMF REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO MELGOSA.

- 4. ACCORDING PRESS, AUTOWORKER LEADER (SMATA) HORACIO ROMAN (ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF RECENTLY INTERVENED CGT REGIONAL BODY OF MORON) WAS RELEASED BY HIS CAPTORS LAST WEEK (PARA 4, REFTEL B). END FYI.
- 5. BELIEVE INFO CONTAINED PARA 4, REFTEL B, MAY BE OF INTEREST TO AFL-CIO AND BRAC INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OTERO, AS INTERVENTION OF SOMU MARITIME UNION APPEARS TO BE RELATED TO UNFORTUNATE INTRAMURAL DISPUTE BETWEEN ITF AFFILIATES SOMU AND NAVAL ELECTRICIANS' UNION (ENRIQUE VENTURINI).

6. PRESS ACCOUNTS OF DECEMBER 23 MEETING OF LABOR MINISTER LIENDO WITH "INTERGROUP COMMITTEE OF SEVEN" TRADE UNION LEADERS HAVE BEEN SCANTY THUS FAR, BUT THE FACT THAT THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT. A NEW MEETING IS SCHEDULED LATER THIS WEEK AT WHICH TIME THE LEADERS PLAN TO PRESENT MINISTER WITH PETITION SIGNED BY 70 SECRETARIES-GENERAL, WHICH IS SAME DOCUMENT DISCUSSED PARA 3, BUENOS AIRES 8024.

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